

Message Text

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C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 01 OF 03 USNATO 10078

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: NATO, PFOR, CA, CH

SUBJECT: CHINESE FOREIGN MINISTER'S VISIT TO OTTAWA

1. THERE FOLLOWS THE TEXT OF SPEAKING NOTES ON THE OCTOBER 4-5 VISIT TO OTTAWA OF CHINESE FOREIGN MINISTER HUANG HUA, ON WHICH CANADIAN PERMREP HARDY DREW AT THE OCTOBER 17 NAC MEETING.

2. BEGIN TEXT.

I. GENERAL IMPRESSIONS

THE VISIT OF CHINESE FOREIGN MINISTER, HUANG HUA, TO OTTAWA OCTOBER 4-6, WHICH WAS HIS FIRST BILATERAL VISIT ABROAD, WAS "PRODUCTIVE AND ILLUMINATING, GIVEN WHAT COULD REASONABLY BE EXPECTED".

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2. THE MAJOR PORTION OF THE TALKS WHICH THE FOREIGN MINISTER HAD WITH PRIME MINISTER TRUDEAU, SECRETARY OF STATE FOR EXTERNAL AFFAIRS JAMIESON AND MINISTER OF TRADE HORNER WERE DEVOTED TO INTERNATIONAL ISSUES. CONSIDERABLE CANDOUR WAS ACHIEVED, ALTHOUGH THE CHINESE FOREIGN MINISTER'S DETERMINED USE OF THE FORMULAE WHICH HAD

APPEARED IN HIS SEPTEMBER 29TH SPEECH TO THE UNGA TO EXPLAIN THE WORLD SITUATION WAS AT FIRST UNSETTLING.

3. WHILE HUANG HUA DID NOT APPEAR TO HAVE THE AUTHORITY TO STRAY FAR FROM THE BASIC PRC FOREIGN POLICY LINE, HE APPEARED WELL INFORMED ABOUT KEY WORLD PROBLEM AREAS AND PROVIDED USEFUL NUANCES AND NEW INFORMATION ABOUT CHINESE POLICY. BEHIND THE RHETORIC HE USED, APPEARS TO BE A PRACTICAL VIEW OF REALITIES OF WORLD POWER WHICH, IN PRACTICE, IS NOT INCONSISTENT WITH A NUMBER OF OUR OWN PERCEPTIONS AND OBJECTIVES.

4. CANADIAN IMPRESSION, FOLLOWING THE DISCUSSIONS, IS THAT GROUNDS EXIST FOR HOPE THAT POINTS OF VIEW CAN BE PUT TO THIS PARTICULAR PRC FOREIGN MINISTER WITH SOME MODEST EXPECTATION THAT THEY REGISTER; ALTHOUGH MANY YEARS OF CONTACT WITH WESTERN COUNTRIES ARE CLEARLY NEEDED TO ACHIEVE A GENUINE DIALOGUE.

II - INTERNATIONAL TOPICS

(A) NUCLEAR

(1) NUCLEAR POWER TECHNOLOGY

THE CHINESE REPRESENTATIVE SAID THAT HIS GOVERNMENT
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INTENDED TO OBTAIN SOME NUCLEAR POWER TECHNOLOGY FROM ABROAD, BUT WITHOUT STRINGS. IN RESPONSE TO CANADIAN SPECULATION THAT FOR CHINA TO REJECT ALL NON-PROLIFERATION SO-CALLED "HALF MEASURES" WOULD MEAN CHINA WOULD HAVE NO OBJECTIONS TO CANADIAN EXPORTS TO PLACES LIKE SOUTH KOREA AND TAIWAN, THE CHINESE SEEMED IN DIFFICULTY TO FIND A REPLY. THE REPRESENTATIVE LATER SAID THAT CHINA DID NOT WORRY ABOUT TAIWAN'S TECHNOLOGICAL RESEARCH PROGRAMS, WHICH WERE MOSTLY "COPY WORK".

(II) ATMOSPHERIC NUCLEAR TESTING

IN RESPONSE TO A CANADIAN EXPRESSION OF STRONG CONCERN ABOUT CONTINUED PRC ATMOSPHERIC NUCLEAR TESTING, HUANG REPLIED THAT "21 TESTS OUT OF THOUSANDS" COULD HARDLY BE SIGNIFICANT.

(B) MIDDLE EAST-AFRICA

CHINESE VIEWS WERE UNSURPRISING ON THE MIDDLE EAST AND AFRICA. THEY INVOLVED A ROUTINE COMMITMENT TO THE PALESTINIANS AND THE LIBERATION OF SOUTHERN AFRICA; HUANG EXPRESSED A STRONG STRATEGIC CONCERN HOWEVER ABOUT POSSIBLE

EXPLOITATION BY THE USSR OF UNSTABLE SITUATIONS AND ABOUT WHAT HE DESCRIBED AS AN INADEQUATE OR MISDIRECTED AMERICAN ROLE IN THE REGION. THE CANADIAN SIDE ATTEMPTED TO PUSH THE DISCUSSION IN A MORE REASONABLE DIRECTION AND STRESSED THAT THE FAILURE OF THE ANGLO-AMERICAN-RHODESIA INITIATIVE COULD LEAD TO A WIDER CONFLICT WHICH WOULD MAINLY BENEFIT THE SOVIET SIDE. THIS POINT SEEMED TO HAVE AN IMPACT ON HUANG.

(C) ASIA

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THE KEY POINT HERE WAS HUANG'S COMMENT THAT HE HAD TOLD JAPANESE FOREIGN MINISTER HATOYAMA AT THE UNGA, THAT GIVEN THE PRESENT INTERNATIONAL SITUATION, THE PRC AGREED THAT JAPAN SHOULD HAVE A CLOSE RELATIONSHIP WITH THE USA AND IN THE CIRCUMSTANCES, CONSIDERED THE MUTUAL DEFENCE ASSISTANCE AGREEMENT WITH THE USA USEFUL. HUANG ALSO SAID THAT JAPAN NEEDED A STRONGER DEFENCE FORCE WHICH WOULD REQUIRE AN EXPENDITURE OF MORE THAN ONE PERCENT OF GNP IN ORDER TO PROTECT JAPAN AS A RESULT OF "ENCIRCLEMENT" BY THE USSR.

(D) SINO/USA BILATERAL RELATIONS

HUANG IMPLIED THAT WHILE CHINA WAS DISAPPOINTED BY THE MOST RECENT TALKS, IT WAS PATIENT IN THE NORMALIZATION EXERCISE. HUANG SAID THE MAXIMUM CHINA COULD ACCEPT WAS THE "JAPANESE FORMULA" OF CONDUCTING BUSINESS THROUGH PRIVATE COMPANIES
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AND PRIVATE PERSONS. IN DISCUSSING THE FUTURE OF TAIWAN, HUANG SAID "THERE WILL LIKELY HAVE TO BE FIGHTING AGAINST COUNTER-REVOLUTIONARIES" THERE BUT WHEN AND HOW IT IS DONE IS ENTIRELY CHINA'S INTERNAL AFFAIR.

(E) VIEWS ON USSR

HUANG HUA BEGAN THE FORMAL TALKS WITH A LENGTHY EXPOSITION OF THE MAIN PRC FOREIGN POLICY THEME, THAT IS THE NEED FOR THE THIRD WORLD AND THE COUNTRIES OF THE SECOND WORLD, LIKE CANADA, TO FORM A "UNITED FRONT" AGAINST THE SUPER-POWERS, AND IN PARTICULAR THE USSR, WHICH HE DECLARED TO BE ON THE OFFENSIVE IN CONTRAST TO THE USA. CANADA HELD A KEY STRATEGIC POSITION AND SHOULD BEWARE OF SOVIET INFILTRATION AND INTELLIGENCE ACTIVITIES. EVERY SUBSEQUENT STATEMENT BY HUANG, EVEN WHEN STRIPPED OF JARGON, SEEMED ANIMATED BY INTENSE HOSTILITY TO THE SOVIET UNION. WE WERE IMPRESSED, IN VIEW OF THE DOUBTS HELD BY SOME ANALYSTS ABOUT THE CONTINUITY OF ANTI-SOVIET POLICY AFTER MAO'S DEATH, WITH THE DEPTH AND APPARENT STEADINESS OF POST-ELEVENTH PARTY CONGRESS PRC POLICY IN THIS RESPECT.

ON THE QUESTION OF INEVITABILITY OF WAR, HUANG PRESENTED THE RECENT VARIATION THAT A WORLD WAR CAN BE POSTPONED, AND ULTIMATE EFFECTS OF WAR ATTENUATED, BY A STRONG UNITED FRONT AGAINST THE SOVIET UNION. HUANG ALSO WARNED OF THE DANGER OF THE USA AND OTHERS FOLLOWING A POLICY OF APPEASEMENT VIS-A-VIS THE SOVIETS. THE SECRETARY OF STATE FOR EXTERNAL AFFAIRS SAID CANADA HAD NO ILLUSIONS ABOUT SOVIET INTENTIONS, BUT WE REJECTED A FATALISTIC APPROACH AND WERE CONVINCED OF THE NEED FOR CONTINUING EFFORTS TO REDUCE TENSION.

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(F) DISARMAMENT

IN RESPONSE TO A STRONG STATEMENT BY THE CANADIAN SIDE ON THE IMPORTANCE OF NON-PROLIFERATION AND DISARMAMENT EFFORTS, HUANG PRESENTED THE FAMILIAR ARGUMENT ABOUT

NUCLEAR BLACKMAIL OF THE SUPERPOWERS AND SHAM DISARMAMENT,
ADDING THAT THE CHINESE PEOPLE TOO WANTED A PEACEFUL WORLD
ENVIRONMENT. THE CHINESE REPRESENTATIVE SUBSEQUENTLY
GAVE THE USUAL INFORMAL ASSURANCE THAT CHINA HAD NO
INTENTION OF PASSING ON NUCLEAR TECHNOLOGY OR WEAPONS TO
ANY OTHER STATE.

III - BILATERAL

TRADE

IN RESPONSE TO THE CANADIAN STATEMENT THAT WE WOULD ASSIST
THROUGH TECHNICAL EXCHANGES TO HELP CHINA FULFILL ITS
AMBITIOUS DEVELOPMENT PLANS, HUANG AGREED THAT THERE WAS
SCOPE FOR BETTER RELATIONS AND THAT THE FOURTH PEOPLE'S
CONGRESS AND ELEVENTH PARTY CONGRESS HAD MADE CLEAR
CHINA'S OBJECTIVES AND OPENED THE DOOR TO FOREIGN
TECHNOLOGY. CHINA DID NOT WANT AN ABSOLUTE BALANCE IN
BILATERAL TRADE BUT DID WANT TO CLOSE THE GAP. THE NEW
CHINESE DEVELOPMENT PLANS WOULD FURTHER IMPROVE PROSPECTS
FOR TWO-WAY TRADE.

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IV - FUTURE CONTACTS

A CANADIAN PARLIAMENTARY DELEGATION WILL VISIT CHINA NEXT FALL AND THE SECRETARY OF STATE FOR EXTERNAL AFFAIRS ACCEPTED AN INVITATION FROM HUANG FOR A VISIT TO BE ARRANGED AT A LATER DATE. THE CHINESE APPEARED RESPONSIVE TO A CANADIAN SUGGESTION FOR AN EXPANDED REGULAR EXCHANGE OF VIEWS ON INTERNATIONAL QUESTIONS BETWEEN OFFICIALS IN RESPECTIVE CAPITALS AND ELSEWHERE. END TEXT. BENNETT

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